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5 August 1953

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

Allen Drury is a staff member of the WASHINGTON STAR and is, in addition, the Washington correspondent for a Palo Alto, California, paper and for the Waterloo, Iowa, COURIER. In a dispatch over his by-line to the Waterloo COURIER, the edition of 14 July 1953, he makes the following statement regarding the Central Intelligence Agency:

"The Central Intelligence Agency is one of the wierdest conglomerations of people ever charged with the security of a great nation and it badly needs investigation, but instead of approaching the matter soberly the Senator from Wisconsin has chosen sensationalism and the resulting wave of opposition is going to make it very difficult to give CIA the shaking-up it so desperately needs."

In last night's STAR he handles the McCarthy story and in it he indicates none of the bias that he expresses in his Waterloo COURIER story.

It is recommended that you invite the attention of Benjamin M. McKelway, the editor of the Washington STAR, to these allegations of Mr. Drury, made on his own authority and over his by-line, and request Mr. McKelway to invite Mr. Drury to furnish you with any information Mr. Drury may have regarding CIA which causes him to state, "...it (CIA) badly needs investigation," and his further statement that CIA so desperately needs a shaking-up. You would assure Mr. McKelway that any information Mr. Drury may have in support of his statement will be thoroughly gone into, since you are as desirous as anyone to keep CIA as strong a security agency as human effort makes possible. Recommend a letter substantially as follows to Mr. McKelway:

Mr. Benjamin M. McKelway
Washington STAR
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ben:

A clipping from the July 14, 1953 issue of the Waterloo, Iowa, COURIER has been brought to my attention because Allen Drury, the COURIER's Washington correspondent and a permanent member of the Washington STAR staff, on his own authority and under his by-line states:

"The Central Intelligence Agency is one of the wierdest conglomerations of people ever charged with the security of a great nation and it badly needs investigation, but instead of approaching the matter soberly the Senator from Wisconsin has chosen sensationalism and the resulting wave of opposition is going to make it very difficult to give CIA the shaking-up it so desperately needs."

I had not been made aware by any reporting by Mr. Drury in the Washington STAR of this bias toward CIA, and I assume that he would not state that CIA "badly needs investigation," and "desperately needs shaking up" if he did not

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have substantial evidence that caused him to reach and publish this conclusion.

I wonder if you would care to consider inviting Mr. Drury to furnish me with any evidence he may have to support these allegations so that CIA may go into the matter thoroughly with the idea of taking corrective action where required. I can assure you that no one is more anxious than I to have CIA and its security activities improved and bettered wherever possible, and to investigate at once, thoroughly and objectively, any weaknesses in the organization or its personnel or its methods that Mr. Drury or anyone else brings to our attention.

Faithfully yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

STANLEY J. GROGAN

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